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THE

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REFUGE,

WITH

THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE TREASURER, THE ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE LADIES' COMMITTEE, AND OF THE
SUPERINTENDENTS, &c.

PHILADELPHIA:
PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONTRIBUTORS.

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1866.



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ANNUAL REPORT.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA; TO THE SELECT AND
COMMON COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA; AND
TO THE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE HOUSE OF REFUGE.

In presenting to the patrons of the House of Refuge a statement of its present condition, the occasion may not be inopportune to revert to the origin and design of the Institution, what it was expected to achieve, and what it has accomplished. On the 23d day of March, 1826, it was incorporated, and was intended for *children*, who were to be placed at such employments, and instructed in such branches of useful knowledge as would be suitable to their years and capacities; after which, they were to be apprenticed, with their consent, to learn such trades and employments as would be most conducive to their reformation and amendment, and would tend to their future benefit and advantage.

Before the establishment of this *noble charity*, no provision had been made for the proper care and training of the disobedient or wayward child; and the youthful delinquent who had committed some venial offence, was committed to the common jail, and associated with the midnight burglar, the daring robber, or crafty thief, and by such association was thoroughly corrupted, and irretrievably ruined. To remedy these baleful evils this School of Reformation was founded.

Not long after the act of incorporation, the Board of Managers issued an address to the public, in which they plainly and forcibly set forth the object of the House of Refuge, that it was "*designed rather as a school of reformation, than a place*

of punishment;" that "*the persons contemplated as subjects of instruction and reform, were individuals of both sexes and tender age;*" that "the whole community was deeply interested in the accomplishment of the plan." "It had for its objects and promised to realize in its results, employment of the idle; instruction of the ignorant; reformation of the depraved; relief of the wretched; a general diffusion of good morals, and enlargement of virtuous society."

On the 21st day of June, 1827, the corner-stone of the first building on Coates Street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth Streets, was laid. On this occasion, an eloquent and impressive address was delivered by the Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, in which he emphatically declared:

"Fellow-citizens: We are not about to erect a prison. Wholesome restraint and due correction are the indispensable companions of every system of education, when dispensed by the kindest of fathers to his most precious child; and they will be administered here with more than parental firmness, and not less than parental care. The door will be opened wide to the helpless, the degraded, the deserted; to those who in early life sin, 'for they know not what they do.' The founders of this establishment will supply the place of parents to those whose natural parents neglect, or corrupt their offspring. Here the stamp of infamy will never be imposed, but the pupils of this benevolent seminary, after being withdrawn for a season from the contaminating influence of evil precepts and example, will, it is hoped, embark upon the wide expanse of life, with grateful recollections of the lessons of wisdom and virtue, which shall have been taught, with a readiness to encounter, and a power to overcome, temptations that may await them, and a happy destination through the perils and the toils of time to the blessings of a blissful eternity."

The buildings were completed towards the close of the year 1828, and on the 29th of November of that year, a large number of the citizens of Philadelphia assembled, by the invitation of the Board of Managers, at the House, where they were addressed by the President of the Institution, the distinguished, the beloved, and lamented John Sergeant, in which he most ably pointed out its leading object, the reformation of the erring child. He said:

“ We would remind you in the first place, that the great end and aim of the House of Refuge is, in the strictest sense of the terms, a work of charity and mercy. Whatever else may be contemplated—and certainly extensive public advantages are to be expected, which well deserve the public consideration—is only incidental. The Refuge is not a place of punishment; it is not a provision simply, or even principally, for the security of society against offence by the confinement of culprits, nor for inflicting the vengeance of society against offenders, as a terror to those who may be inclined to do evil. It presents no vindictive or reproachful aspects; it threatens no humiliating recollections of the past; it holds out no degrading denunciations for the future, but in the accents of kindness and compassion, invites the children of poverty and ignorance, whose wandering and unguided steps are leading them to swift destruction, to come to a home where they will be sheltered from temptation, and led into the ways of usefulness and virtue. Immunity from criminal accountability up to a fixed period of life, and a consequent freedom from restraint and punishment, until that period arrive, would be repugnant to every feeling of social prudence and justice. On the other hand, to seize upon the first dawn of the faculty of discerning right from wrong, where childhood is manifest in the language, the deportment, and in the very person of the culprit, and throw the offending child into a mass of ripe and hardened offenders, subjected to the same punishment, and condemned to the same association, has in it something so revolting to humanity, that the spectacle never fails to enlist the feelings against the law, and judges and juries are often tempted to strain their consciences in order to produce an acquittal.”

Such is the design of the House of Refuge, to save the erring child, to restore him to society, fitted to lead a life of industry and virtue, to enjoy the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens; but above all, by teaching him to deal justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with his God, he may, through his Saviour's redeeming love, be prepared to dwell with Him in everlasting happiness. How has this design been carried out? What has been accomplished with regard to the physical, intellectual, moral and religious training of the pupils? A nutritious and wholesome diet, comfortable and appropriate apparel, regular and suitable employment, daily and refreshing exercise and recreation in the play-grounds, secure

vigorous bodily health. Since the opening of the white department in December, 1828, 7,899 pupils have been admitted, and 54 deaths have occurred, less than seven-tenths of one per cent. The colored department was opened on the first day of January, 1850, and since that period 1,626 inmates have been received, and among them 32 deaths took place. A little over two per cent. The deaths of the colored inmates were nearly all from tubercular consumption. It is thus evident that the inmates have enjoyed a remarkable degree of health. By their employment in the workshops, habits of industry and order are formed, and some degree of skill in the use of tools is acquired. For, although the time they remain in the Institution is not sufficient to afford an opportunity of acquiring a complete knowledge of a trade, yet they are fitted to be valuable apprentices.

Rather more than four hours a day are spent in the school-rooms. It is the design of the Board that the pupils should be well grounded in the elementary branches, at least, of a good English education. Many of these children have, prior to their admission, been so neglected that they could neither read nor write, and some of them did not know the alphabet. It is a *rule* of the House that the inmates cannot be apprenticed, except in extraordinary cases, until they can read and write. All the efforts of the Managers are also exerted that the moral and religious training of the inmates should prepare them to perform their duties in the station in which it has pleased God to place them. They have "line upon line, and precept upon precept." Moral instruction is imparted to them collectively and separately. Both the Matrons and the Superintendents have frequent private conversations with the inmates under their particular care. There is daily, morning and evening, family worship, and religious services in the Chapel twice on Sunday. No sectarian instruction is permitted. The Sunday-schools are under the care of kind teachers whose devotion to their voluntary work of love, manifests the deep interest they feel that their labors may be successful.

The discipline of the Institution is parental, gentle, but firm,

and, as far as practicable, to govern by kindness, not by severity. To make the inmates feel that it is, indeed, a refuge. That they do so feel, their frequent visits to the House after their discharge, show. Many striking examples could be given. Our limits will not allow us to cite more than a few. At the age of eleven years, C. D. became a pupil of this school. After remaining in it for some time, she was apprenticed to a respectable farmer, with whom she remained several years after her apprenticeship had terminated. Her health became impaired, when she returned to the Refuge, where by skilful medical treatment, and tender and assiduous nursing, she was restored, and again gained her livelihood by her own honest industry. After some time her health again failed, when she came back to the home of her childhood; again met with a hearty welcome; was again watched over with maternal solicitude. Her disease, consumption, was now so deeply seated, that it baffled all the efforts of her medical adviser. Her dying bed was faithfully and affectionately watched over; her pains were soothed, and she gently fell asleep in Jesus, on the 23d of April last.

During the year, J. C., also a former pupil, died. She was also apprenticed, and faithfully served out her time. She became the wife of a worthy man, and the mother of five children. From time to time she visited the Institution, and occasionally brought some of her children with her. She expressed her lively gratitude for the blessings she had received by her sojourn in the Refuge, and during her last illness wrote several letters, in which she expressed her earnest wish that she might be spared to pay one more visit to the House. Her end was full of resignation, peace and hope.

M. J., a former pupil, was apprenticed, and some time after her term had expired, paid a visit to the House, and informed the Matron that she had a situation in a telegraphic office, where she received a liberal salary. She said she was satisfied that she had received great benefit from the discipline of the House, and that her future promised to be respectable.

On the 17th of August, A. S., accompanied by his wife,

visited the House. He faithfully served out his apprenticeship, and then served under the banner of his country. He is now engaged in business for himself. He expressed himself grateful for the kindness and benefits he had received while in the Refuge, and stated that he felt perfectly satisfied that its discipline had rescued him from a life of wretchedness and crime.

C. W., a fine looking young man, entered the service of the United States; was in a number of severe engagements, but escaped without a wound. He was promoted to a lieutenancy. He is now engaged with a mercantile firm.

As already stated, more than 9,500 young persons have enjoyed the blessings of the House, and of this number we may safely affirm, that at least two-thirds were so much improved as to become useful members of the community.

While such benefits have been obtained by the public, and so many blessings have been conferred upon the objects of their bounty, the question may be asked, has the House of Refuge achieved all the good that it might have done? In reply to this question it may be stated that the managers think that the Institution has accomplished *all* that could have reasonably been expected under the circumstances in which it has been placed. Could they have carried out the original design of this charity, intended for the training of children, much greater advantages would have been attained. While the Board have the liveliest satisfaction in stating that most of the judges have cordially co-operated with them, they regret to say that there are a few exceptions, and that some inmates have been sent who were entirely unsuitable—persons, who, if they had not reached manhood, had very nearly attained it, and whose habits, from a long career of vice, had become fixed. For such persons there was no *reasonable* hope of reformation. They have exercised a malign influence on the other inmates. If these gentlemen would only visit the House of Refuge, and see the young children sent by their parents for some slight offence, properly instructed there, they would deeply regret that they had been the cause, unintentionally, of great mischief.

The Managers have, from time to time, been sorely grieved to find their best hopes disappointed, in some cases where reformation was favorably progressing, and which would, but for the above cause, have been finally successful. Will the question be asked, why, if such evils existed, have not the Judges been apprised of the fact, and the result of the experience of the Board communicated to them. This has been done repeatedly. On the opening of the House in 1828, the addresses of the Board of Managers, of the Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, and of the Hon. John Sergeant, were widely circulated, and a copy sent to every Judge in the Commonwealth.

The following extracts from different Reports will show the uniform and continued efforts of the Board to communicate to all those empowered to send inmates to the House, the results of the experience of Managers, of the evils resulting from sending those who, from their age, or a long course of crime, were not likely to derive any benefit which the discipline of the Refuge, and whose influence and example did great mischief to the young pupils.

FROM THE FIRST REPORT.

“Experience has already satisfied all those who have been engaged in the cares of the Establishment, of the importance of commencing the work of reformation and instruction at an early age.”

In the Second Report it is stated that, *“It cannot be too often repeated, that the younger the children are, who are sent to the House of Refuge, the more likely will they be to receive the full advantage of its discipline. Boys who have approached to manhood in vicious habits, cannot be expected to unlearn the lessons that have been taught them, and to substitute new principles in their room.”*

FROM THE THIRD REPORT.

“In almost every instance where the system has been permitted to exercise its influence fairly, it has realized the sanguine expectations of its friends. If at any time, or on any occasion, disappointment has been felt, it has been owing to the absence of a complete opportunity to bring into exercise the principles which enter into the constitution of the House of Refuge. If, for example, the subjects intended for reform, have been permitted

to run a career so long that habits of vice have become mature, it rarely happens that discipline can reform them. Such are the persons, who, instead of being withdrawn in childhood from vicious intercourse, are left to indulge in it until their minds and bodies have attained the growth, and approached the age of manhood, before they are submitted to a course of instruction and restraint. For such the task of reform is almost hopeless."

FROM THE FOURTH REPORT.

"Each succeeding year confirms our conviction of the advantages to be derived from admission to the House of Refuge at an early age; and shows the difficulty of effecting reform among those who are further advanced. We cannot too often repeat that the Institution is designed for the young. In proportion to the tenderness of years is the hope of reformation."

FROM THE FIFTH REPORT.

"The Managers think, That none should be sent to the Refuge who have attained an age and growth which forbid the hope of bringing them beneficially under the influence of its discipline. They injure the younger inmates, and disturb, materially, the order of the Establishment."

FROM THE TWELFTH REPORT.

"Experience confirms the opinion heretofore expressed, of the great importance of having children sent to the Institution before habits of vice are confirmed. At an early age, evil propensities, by careful training, may, in most instances, under Divine Providence, be eradicated, and virtuous dispositions implanted and cultivated, and habits of regularity and industry fixed. But where there has been a long continuance of depravity, and the period during which the discipline of the House can be exerted is short, the hope of reformation is greatly diminished."

FROM THE TWENTY-NINTH REPORT.

"We would remind those Magistrates who are empowered to commit to the House of Refuge that it is not a prison but a school; that punishment is not named in our charter, and forms no part of our plan of reformation, but is an asylum for the wayward and disobedient child. Those, therefore, who have been long in the commission of crime, and have approached manhood, are not suitable subjects."

FROM THE THIRTIETH REPORT.

"In the Acts of Assembly, establishing the Philadelphia House of Refuge, in the regulations adopted by the Managers thereof; in the numerous addresses and reports that have been made in reference to its objects and condition; in the decisions of Courts, presentments of Grand Juries, and published statements of its design and advantages, the leading and principal object has been proclaimed to be INSTRUCTION, NOT PUNISHMENT, RESTRAINT FROM EVIL ASSOCIATIONS, and not CONFINEMENT, AN ASYLUM for friendless and unfortunate children, and not a PRISON for young culprits."

THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT.

"The Board have repeatedly stated that THE HOUSE OF RE- IS NOT A PLACE OF PUNISHMENT, but a SCHOOL for the erring child, where, under judicious training, principles of rectitude, and habits of industry may be permanently implanted, and he may be prepared for a life of respectability, usefulness and happiness. After he shall have been reformed by his residence in the House, it is contemplated by the Act of Incorporation, that he should be placed out as an apprentice to learn some useful trade or employment; and it must have been intended that the usual term of apprenticeship should be allowed the child to enable him to acquire a proper knowledge of the business by which he is to gain his livelihood. Those, therefore, who have long been in the commission of crime, or are approaching manhood, are, in the opinion of the Board, not suitable subjects. Indeed, as a general rule, those over the age of sixteen, are not desirable inmates. Notwithstanding these earnest appeals, persons are sometimes sent to the Refuge who are not proper subjects, and for whom this asylum was never intended."

FROM THE THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT

"As the Refuge is not a place of punishment, but a manual labor-school, in which children are to be educated and prepared for lives of usefulness and respectability, it would seem self-evident that those who have perpetrated high crimes, or are approaching manhood, are not suitable subjects for the discipline of the House. In addition to the evil influence they exert over the other inmates, they cannot be indentured. The Board respectfully ask the attention of the Judges to these considerations ere they send inmates to the Refuge."

Thus have the Board of Managers endeavored to make known that in their opinion it is *designed* for the *young*. Their Reports have been regularly transmitted to the judicial officers of the State. It is very gratifying that their view of this great question has met with the approval of nearly every judge, but it is a matter of profound regret that there should be any who differ from them. It seems obvious that a school intended for children is not appropriate for young men and women, and that those who had become hardened and depraved by a long course of crime and debauchery, are unfit associates for those of tender years.

When the buildings were erected, they were not planned for a class of persons, who, it was supposed, would not be sent there, nor would such persons be sent if the design of the Institution was understood.

The Managers desire the hearty co-operation of all the magistrates, that the greatest amount of good may be obtained. It may in some cases be very distressing to be obliged to sentence a young man or woman to a prison, but surely it is far better to do so, than in the hope, truly a vain one, of reforming one, to risk the contamination of hundreds.

On the first of January, 1865, there were in the White Department, 386 boys, and 131 girls; total, 517, and in the Colored Department 88 boys, and 56 girls; total, 144.

In both departments, 474 boys and 187 girls; total, 661.

There were received into the White Department during 1865, 263 boys; 116 girls; total, 379. Discharged during the year, 319 boys; 148 girls; total, 467.

Remaining in the House on the first of January, 1866, 330 boys; 99 girls; total, 429.

The Colored Department received during the year 73 boys and 23 girls; total, 96. Discharged during the year, 57 boys; 33 girls; total, 90. Remaining on the first of January, 1866, 104 boys; 46 girls; total, 150.

In both departments, 434 boys, and 145 girls; total, 579.

The employments of the boys, suitable to their ages and capacities, are, in the White Department, making Brushes,

Match Boxes, Chair Making, Shoemaking and Blacksmithing; in the Colored Department, making Umbrella Furniture, Match Boxes and Shoemaking.

About seven hours and a half are spent in the work-shops; a little over four in the school-rooms; the residue of the day in taking their meals, in recreation and sleep.

The girls are instructed in various household duties, and they enjoy the same opportunity for scholastic instruction as the boys. They are exclusively under the care of female instructors. The clothing of the inmates, except their hats and shoes, is made and mended by the girls; and they do the washing, ironing and cooking of the House. They have the opportunity of becoming well acquainted with household duties.

In their Report for the year 1862, the Managers say,

"In their last Report, they stated that in their opinion 'our climate is not congenial to the race of Africa;' further experience confirms this opinion. When peace shall again bless our land, some plan may, perhaps be devised, which may tend effectually to ameliorate the condition of this race. At present the Board will continue their efforts to restore, if possible, at all events to improve the health of those committed to their care, by the most judicious sanitary measures that medical science can devise. The Board have no doubt that the health of the inmates generally, has been much improved after their admission into the House, by the advantages they enjoy from a wholesome diet, comfortable clothing, and proper and regular employment, recreation and exercise."

That this opinion was well-founded is apparent from the number of deaths that have occurred among the colored inmates. Under the same kind and judicious treatment, more than two per cent. have died; while among the white children less than seven-tenths of one per cent. have died.

The Board believe that if the colored children could be removed to the country, they would be greatly benefitted. From eighty to one hundred thousand dollars would accomplish this desirable object. An appeal is now earnestly made to the philanthropic citizens of the Commonwealth, and particularly to those who feel an especial interest in the colored population.

The importance of a House of Correction is so universally admitted that it is a matter of astonishment that the Councils have not yet provided the means for the erection of one. The Managers of the Philadelphia House of Correction have made repeated and earnest appeals to the Councils to furnish the necessary funds. These appeals have hitherto been unsuccessful. But it is hoped that the new Councils will make such provision as may be requisite to enable the Managers of that Institution to erect such buildings as are now absolutely needed.

The Board are often pained by being obliged to refuse the admission into the Refuge of persons who are unfit for this school, but who are deserving of sympathy and compassion, and for whom a suitable asylum should be provided. Degraded as they may be, they are still our fellow creatures, and humanity and self-interest unite in asking that they should be properly cared for. In a House of Correction they would be obliged to earn something towards their own support. There, they would be prevented from indulging in those vices which have brought them to shame and sorrow; there, their physical wants would be provided for; there, earnest endeavors would be made to implant principles of rectitude, to fix habits of order, and industry; and there, with God's blessing, some at least would be reformed and restored to society, and all would be improved, and while in the Asylum be prevented from preying on the public. When so much good may be reasonably anticipated, surely no efforts should be left untried to carry out a plan which promises to restrain vice, to promote virtue, to restore the unhappy outcast to society, and to diminish the public burthens. The affluent and the generous are appealed to; the public authorities are invoked to provide a House of Correction for the sons and daughters of sin and misery.

The expenditures of the Institution have been carefully guarded, but they have been necessarily heavy, and some of them were not anticipated. For several years past the Board have been exceedingly anxious to adopt measures to warm the Colored Department more thoroughly. With a large con-

sumption of fuel, the boilers in the White Department did not answer this purpose. Owing to the distance the heat had to be conveyed, much of it was lost. With a view to comfort and economy, new boilers with two furnaces, and a suitable building for them, have been placed in this department, with a result so far highly satisfactory.

The boilers in the White Department, required repairs, and the occasion was embraced to alter them. It is expected that a very considerable saving of coal will thus be attained.

In order to secure a better classification of the younger pupils, a room under the girls' refectory has been fitted up. It is well calculated for the purpose for which it is intended, being light, airy, dry and comfortable. Some other improvements, which were necessary, have been made. The whole cost of these alterations and improvements amount to \$4,215 83.

Notwithstanding this unexpected outlay, the Board trust that they will not be obliged to ask either from the City of Philadelphia or State of Pennsylvania, any addition to the usual allowance made to the Institution.

The account of the Treasurer, which accompanies this Report, will exhibit the receipts and the expenditures for the past year.

The Board refer with pleasure to the Reports of the Ladies' Committee, and Superintendents, for many interesting details, and much valuable information. The Sunday-school continues in a satisfactory condition. To the teachers of them, and to the clergymen and other kind friends who officiate in the Chapel, the Board again tender their cordial thanks, and they beg leave to express their sense of the valued services of the Ladies' Committee.

The different officers in their various spheres, continue satisfactorily to discharge their various duties.

The Officers of the Government, the Members of the Legislature, and of the Councils of Philadelphia, the Contributors, and the Judges throughout the State, are again cordially invited to visit this Institution, where they will see for them-

selves, a large family of young persons cheerful and happy, industrious and orderly, receiving that education which is calculated to make them useful and prosperous, and so instructed that they may become wise unto salvation.

Invoking the Divine blessing on the youthful inmates, and those entrusted with their guidance, the Managers surrender their trust into the hands of the Contributors.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS EARP, *President.*

Attest:

ALEXANDER HENRY, *Secretary.*

PHILADELPHIA, January 10, 1866.

CHARLES E. HAVEN, *Treasurer, in account with House of Refuge.*

1865.

DR.

January 1, To balance as per last report,	\$1,812 16
cash received from Warrants on the City and State Treasury, under ap- propriations made for the support of the Institution for 1864 and 1865,	50,250 00
To cash received from the labor of inmates:	
White Department,	\$10,806 14
Colored Department,	3,046 39
	<hr/>
	13,852 53
To cash for balance of interest,	317 23
for Life Subscriptions and Con- tributions,	110 00
for income from Cope Fund,	91 20
for Board of Inmates,	42 75
for sale of old materials, &c.,	245 15
borrowed from Bank, &c.,	2,650 00
for one year's Ground Rent,	260 83
	<hr/>
	\$69,631 85

CR.

By cash paid orders of the Board for the maintenance of the White Department,	\$51,599 63
Of the Colored Depart- ment,	17,829 25
	<hr/>
	\$69,428 88
December 31, By balance in Western Bank,	202 97
	<hr/>
	\$69,631 85

The above account has been examined and found correct.

HENRY PERKINS,
WILLIAM S. PEROT,

Philadelphia, January 15, 1866.

REPORT OF LADIES' COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Managers of the House of Refuge.

GENTLEMEN:—An annual report, relating to an institution like that under your supervision, governed as it is by wise laws and judicious regulations, which necessarily impose restraint upon the inclinations and tempers of the class of inmates who compose it, and where there is a regular routine of duty with no remarkable incidents to relate, must necessarily present a sameness in its relations from year to year.

The Ladies' Committee have endeavored faithfully to perform the duties devolving upon them. A committee of two ladies is present at each House on Tuesday of every week, overlooking the House, and upon the assembling of the girls in the sewing-room, examining the clothing made by them, the amount of which commends their industry; hearing the recitations from Scripture, explaining and endeavoring to impress upon their hearts and minds the truths therein taught.

We congratulate the Board upon having retained the efficient Matron at the White House. Her labors have been arduous, particularly at the commencement of this year, when she found it necessary to punish and restrain many of the larger inmates who were more than ordinarily difficult to control. Proper discipline was however enforced until they became more manageable. Her labors are greatly increased from the unfortunate classification of that department, so large a number of younger girls, and *comparatively* guiltless, mingling with larger and more criminal companions, which, while exposing the younger girls to temptation, requires a more laborious degree of vigilance over all. Under such circumstances the excellent order and good management are most commendable; the unruly tempers have been in a measure controlled; and we hope for good results from the care bestowed upon the in-

mates. We are particularly pleased with the good order of the schools, and the improvement of the scholars, which in some instances is remarkable.

In the Colored Department, the Matron is faithful and efficient—the House well ordered. *Here*, as in the White House, there has been trouble with several refractory spirits, whom it was necessary to put under discipline until they became more tractable. Six or eight girls, at a recent meeting of the ladies, were reported as persisting in neglecting to take proper care of their own clothes; the exposure to the Committee we hope will lead to amendment in this particular. When visited by the Committee, the Scripture lessons have usually been well recited; the girls have been attentive to, and appeared interested in the explanations given. The clothing made by them bespeaks industry and neatness.

As far as the Committee are capable of judging, *all* the officers of the Institution appear to be faithfully discharging their duties, and endeavoring to promote the interests and good of those under their care.

We close our report, thanking our Heavenly Father for the mercies vouchsafed us during the past year, and beseeching Him to water with His Holy Spirit our efforts among the inmates at the House of Refuge.

By order of the Board.

ANNIE L. LOWRY.

January 1, 1866.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE WHITE DEPARTMENT.

To the Managers of the House of Refuge:

The Superintendent of the White Department respectfully reports that the number admitted and discharged from January 1, 1865, to January 1, 1866, is as follows:

	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Committed by Magistrates of Philadelphia, . . .	187	84	271
“ Courts of Philadelphia County, . . .	17	1	18
“ “ Lehigh “ . . .	2		2
“ “ Adams “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Northampton “ . . .	2		2
“ “ Centre “ . . .	2		2
“ “ Chester “ . . .	2		2
“ “ Lebanon “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Schuylkill “ . . .	2	2	4
“ “ Berks “ . . .	3	1	4
“ “ Dauphin “ . . .	1	1	2
“ “ Luzerne “ . . .	2		2
“ “ Lancaster “ . . .	6	6	12
“ “ Juniata “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Clinton “ . . .	1	1	2
“ “ Montgomery “ . . .		1	1
“ “ Northumberland “ . . .		1	1
“ “ Huntingdon “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Mifflin “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Tioga “ . . .	2		2
“ “ York “ . . .	1		1
“ “ Union “ . . .		2	2
“ “ Bucks “ . . .	2		2
Returned, having been indentured, . . .	18	13	31
Returned voluntarily, . . .	8	3	11
	<hr/> 263	<hr/> 116	<hr/> 379

Discharged.

	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
By indenture,	120	57	177
Returned to friends,	165	63	228
Examining Judges,	6	3	9
Order of Court,	8	2	10
Sent to Almshouse,	6	2	8
Sent to Magdalen,		1	1
Returned to Court,	3	2	5
Returned to Magistrate,	1	2	3
Died,	1		1
Discharged,	9	16	25
	<hr/> 319	<hr/> 148	<hr/> 467
Remaining in the Institution January 1, 1866,	330	99	429

217 were committed on complaint, and by request of their parents or nearest friends—namely, 138 boys and 79 girls.

Those admitted were born as follows:

In the City and County of Philadelphia, 212; in other counties of Pennsylvania, 71; New York, 9; New Jersey, 8; Maryland, 2; Massachusetts, 4; Delaware, 2; Indiana, 1; Connecticut, 1; Ohio, 1; Rhode Island, 1; Alabama, 1; Ireland, 23; Germany, 12; England, 7; France, 1; Scotland, 3; Wales, 1; Nova Scotia, 1; Mexico, 1; Canada, 2; unknown, 15. Total, 379.

111 were of American parentage; 139 Irish; 69 German; 26 English; 8 Scotch; 2 Welsh; 1 French; 1 Swedish; 1 Spanish; 1 Polish; 20 unknown. Total, 379.

Of the inmates, 57 had lost both parents previous to their admission into the House; 58 their mothers; 98 their fathers; in all, 213 had lost one or both parents by death.

The average age of boys when admitted, $13\frac{1}{8}$ years; girls, $14\frac{5}{8}$ years.

Average number of inmates through the year was 348 boys and 118 girls, in all, 466.

The greatest number of inmates at any one time was 387 boys and 132 girls.

The boys were indentured as follows:

To farmers, 76; shoemakers, 12; blacksmiths, 6; chair-makers, 3; tobaccoists, 2; stone-masons, 2; tailors, 2; millers,

2; cabinet-maker, 1; chandler, 1; painter, 1; baker, 1; tanner, 1; rope-maker, 1; plasterer, 1; brush-maker, 1; carriage-maker, 1; button-maker, 1; sculptor, 1; carpenter, 1; wire-worker, 1; wheelwright, 1; tinsmith, 1. Total, 120.

WORK DONE BY BOYS.

Amount of labor in the brush shop, . . .	\$5,162 39
“ “ shoe shop, . . .	1,820 90
“ “ box shop, . . .	1,607 62
“ “ chair shop, . . .	1,443 04
“ “ smith shop, . . .	690 70
	<hr/>
	<u>\$10,724 65</u>

WORK DONE BY GIRLS.

Pants,	980
Jackets,	877
Boys' aprons,	559
Shirts,	545
Suspenders,	525
Under garments,	267
Dresses,	243
Sheets,	198
Bedspreads,	184
Girls' aprons,	182
Handkerchiefs hemmed,	130
Flannel shirts,	109
Stockings knitted, (pairs)	98
Towels hemmed,	55
Pillow cases,	35
Bedticks,	20
Officers' sheets,	19
Window curtains,	16
Roller towels,	12
Pillow cases for officers,	10
Bolster cases for officers,	6
Settee covers,	2
Pillow cases for settee,	2

Carpet rags sewed, (lbs.)	400
Housework, washing, ironing and mending.	

EXPENDITURES OF WHITE DEPARTMENT FOR 1865.

Salaries,	\$6,388 94
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Provisions.

Beef for officers' table, 4,138 lbs.	\$620 59	
Beef for inmates, . 26,223 lbs.	2,097 84	
Mutton, veal and pork, 3,184 lbs.	420 88	
Ham and dried beef, 1,019 lbs.	285 88	
Wheat flour, . 176,720 lbs.	9,299 35	
Corn meal, . . 16,184 lbs.	483 45	
Beans,	474 14	
Potatoes, . . . 858 bus.	618 60	
Turnips, 126 bus.	78 00	
Milk, 6,113 qts.	517 87	
Butter, 896 lbs.	515 43	
Marketing,	499 83	
Coffee, 1,670 lbs.	241 72	
Tea, 161 lbs.	177 92	
Sugar, 1,586 lbs.	300 38	
Cheese, 139 lbs.	46 47	
Molasses, 2,059 galls.	1,011 47	
Spices,	30 54	
Hops and malt,	90 60	
Lard, 247 lbs.	62 82	
Salt, 32 sacks.	139 25	
	<hr/>	18,013 03

Clothing.

Boys' clothing,	\$4,685 25	
Girls' clothing,	1,190 15	
Boys' shoes, . . . 541 pairs.	1,221 75	
Girls' shoes, . . . 205 pairs.	440 75	
Mending,	1,053 65	
Muslins, 3,764 yards.	1,571 63	
Combs, thread, &c.,	286 88	
	<hr/>	10,450 06
Carried forward,		<hr/> \$34,852 03

Brought forward,	\$34,852 03
Furniture, brooms and bedding,	\$1,280 74
Repairs and Improvements,	3,223 60

Fuel and Heating Apparatus.

Coal,	\$3,887 25
Pine wood,	67 00
Tin work,	169 00
	<hr/>
	4,123 25

For light.

Gas and oil,	1,276 18
Candles,	34 05
	<hr/>
	1,310 23

Cleansing.

Cleansing house,	156 00
Soap and soda,	741 72
Starch,	8 77
Lime and sand,	108 93
	<hr/>
	1,015 42

Other Expenses.

Physicians' services,	100 00
Medicines and dentistry,	535 28
Bringing subjects,	209 25
Sending away subjects,	29 02
Water rent,	200 00
Postage,	43 90
Books and stationery,	129 92
Car fare,	21 38
Garden,	9 69
Funerals,	35 00
Sundries,	158 39
	<hr/>
	1,471 83

EXPENSES OF BOTH WHITE AND
COLORED DEPARTMENTS.

Salary of Agent, rent of office and Managers's room,	\$1,114 54
Wages of Engineers, Baker, Carpenter and Coachman,	2,318 00
	<hr/>
Carried forward,	\$3,432 54
	<hr/>
	47,277 10

Brought forward, . . .	\$3,432 54	\$47,277 10
Printing Annual Report, paper, &c.,	231 55	
Horse keeping,	438 66	
Repairing carriages,	185 19	
Harness and repairs,	32 10	
Sundries,	728 27	
	<hr/>	
	\$5,048 31	

Of the above expenses there is charge-

able to the Colored Department, . . .	2,129 10	
And to the White Department, . . .		2,919 21

Expenses of the White Department for the last year,		<u>\$50,196 31</u>
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If there is deducted from this amount, \$2,215 83; expended for improvements of a permanent character, the cost *per capita* is \$102 96. The labor of the boys reduces it to \$79 09. Our weekly average for the first three quarters of the year, as compared with the same time of last year, shows an excess of 10, but owing to the large number discharged in the last quarter of this year, it makes the entire year's average 6 less than the previous year's.

We had expected that the termination of the war and the depreciation of gold would reduce prices to a reasonable rate, but such has not been the case. They have advanced considerably above the exorbitant prices of 1864. In the one item of flour, though consuming 13,341 pounds less this year than in the year before, the cost is \$533 51 more. Other articles have increased in price in a much greater ratio.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

The number of boys in school at the commencement of the year,	384
Received during the year,	247
Discharged,	308
Number in school at this date,	323
Average daily attendance,	286

Average time in House of those discharged,	14 $\frac{2}{3}$ months.
“ “ “ “ indentured,	16 $\frac{1}{3}$ months.

The following table shows their attainments when admitted and discharged.

	<i>When admitted.</i>	<i>When discharged.</i>
Could read well,	7	56
“ “ tolerably,	60	150
“ “ poorly,	86	90
“ “ monosyllables,	47	11
Knew the alphabet only,	28	1
Knew not the alphabet,	19	0
Total,	247	308
Could write a plain hand,	2	50
“ “ legibly,	57	139
“ “ poorly,	79	99
“ “ name only,	40	18
“ not write,	69	2
Total,	247	308
Could cipher in square root,		1
“ “ interest,		1
“ “ fractions,	1	13
“ “ reduction,	13	44
“ “ through primary rules,	26	60
“ “ multiplication,	37	60
“ “ subtraction,	32	49
“ “ addition,	24	48
Knew nothing of written arithmetic,	114	32
Total,	247	308

GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Number of girls in school January 1, 1865,	127
Admitted during the year,	84
Discharged,	118
In school at present time,	93
Average attendance,	109

	<i>When admitted.</i>	<i>When discharged.</i>
Could read fluently,	1	46
“ “ tolerably,	22	67
“ “ easy lessons,	36	5
“ spell words of two or three letters,	16	
Knew the alphabet,	6	
Ignorant of the alphabet,	3	
Total,	<hr/> 84	<hr/> 118
Could write well,	1	80
“ “ legibly,	32	38
“ “ name only,	7	
“ not write,	44	
Total,	<hr/> 84	<hr/> 118
Could cipher in compound numbers,	3	46
“ “ through primary rules,	5	34
“ “ multiplication,	12	33
“ “ addition,	17	5
“ not cipher,	47	
Total,	<hr/> 84	<hr/> 118

The means relied upon for the reformation of the children entrusted to our care, are the improvement of the morals, the cultivation of the intellect, and the formation of industrious habits. Each of these receives its appropriate share of attention, and the latter two are of essential service in accomplishing the former. Deeply sensible that there can be no permanent change of character, unless based upon religious principles, it is deemed of the greatest importance to the future welfare of our children that they should be carefully instructed in all that relates to a proper discharge of their duties as responsible and immortal beings. To effect this, we rely upon the plain, practical and forcible expositions of Divine truths that are given every Sabbath in our Chapel exercises, the instruction in our Sabbath-schools, private conversations of a moral and religious character, and the examples of those who have the daily superintendence of the children. These

agencies afford us a reasonable ground of hope that they will exert an influence that will be instrumental in restoring many of our erring ones to society again as virtuous and useful members. If we discover that in any individual case our hopes have been frustrated, we feel satisfied that no responsibility can be attached to the proper and legitimate influences of the Institution, but the failure may be attributed to a natural perversity of heart that induces its possessor to still pursue the paths of iniquity.

We find that many of our children when admitted are very deficient in educational acquirements; a large proportion of them not having advanced much beyond a knowledge of the alphabet. To remedy this, we have schools graded to the attainments and improvement of the pupils, under the care and instruction of faithful and efficient teachers. For this deplorable ignorance the parents are justly held responsible. With the opportunity of acquiring a proper degree of education in our public schools, these children have been permitted, through the criminal indifference of their parents, to be upon the streets from morning till night, and frequently all night, exposed to improper influences, and rapidly acquiring an education that would, if their career had not been checked, have qualified them for the penitentiary.

As society is interested in the suppression of vice, having to bear a portion of its evil consequences, it should insist by legislative enactment that every child in our city, capable of receiving an education, should be benefited by the school instruction that has been so liberally provided for it, and if parents manifest a disposition to resist so beneficent a provision, their children should be removed from their guardianship, and placed in institutions where they would receive that moral and intellectual training so necessary to prepare them for usefulness.

By educating the children of the poorer classes of society, we destroy a prolific source of "juvenile delinquencies." A law of this kind would to a great extent be necessarily preventive in its effects, causing many children to be taken from the streets before vicious habits are formed. This would be

much better than to let them remain as they now do, until they become thoroughly corrupted, and subject to the penalties of the criminal law.

As showing the intimate connection between idleness and vice, nearly all who are sent here have not been accustomed to any regular employment. It is necessary then, to aid in the complete development of character, that we should create in our children habits of industry, and to effect this we put them to work in the shops, where they acquire a knowledge of the use of tools, an acquaintance with mechanical branches, and become inured to labor.

When our inmates have become as we trust sufficiently reformed to encounter the trials and temptations of the world again, they are either returned to their friends or indentured. Boys are bound until they become twenty-one years of age, and chiefly to farmers. Their removal to the country for a time from former scenes and associations in the city is necessary, in many instances, to strengthen them in the virtuous principles they may have formed here. As their engaging in the farming business is with them rather a matter of necessity than choice, it becomes important to inquire whether an apprenticeship to this business *until of age* is the best, pecuniarily, that could be done for them! The average age of the boys indentured is about fourteen years, and a lad of this age upon a farm, if industrious, can certainly earn his living, and every year's experience increases his capability for usefulness. At the age of eighteen, if of a vigorous constitution, he would be capable of doing a man's work, and receiving as he believes he ought to, a man's wages, instead of the small stipend the indenture requires to be given him. This fact so strongly impresses many of our apprentices, and strengthened in its belief frequently by the counsels of others, that they disregard the obligations of the indenture, and seek for a situation of their own choice, and upon terms agreeable to themselves and their employers. Some who do not wish to make farming their business for life, turn their attention to mechanical pursuits. As these cases are not rare, but of frequent occurrence, would

it not be better to indenture boys to farmers until eighteen years of age, instead of twenty-one? If this were done, there would be fewer absconding apprentices, and those indentured would entertain a more grateful feeling towards the Institution than they now experience, if before arriving at manhood, they had the privilege of learning a trade, or earning wages, if they preferred it, at the business to which they had been bound.

If it be objected that binding until this age would lessen the demand for our apprentices, it might be replied, that their not remaining at their places until of age does not effect it. If a master has had the services of an apprentice for two or three years, and then loses him, he feels that he is fully compensated for all the trouble and expense he was subject to, and is very willing to try another one.

The average time of the indenture of girls seldom exceeds two years, at a more liberal rate of compensation, and the demand for them is always greater than the supply. If under sixteen when committed, they become free at eighteen years of age—a period of life with them when they are much less able than boys would be at that age to take care of themselves.

At the commencement of the year we had 517 children, and received during the year 379 more, making a total of 896 that were under the discipline of the House. With so large a number, there was but little sickness, and only one death. A small boy was attacked with symptoms denoting congestion of the brain, and though everything was done for him that medical skill could suggest, he died after an illness of a few days. For the excellent health that has prevailed among so large a number, we have great reason to be thankful.

The information received of those who have been indentured is generally of a very gratifying character. We have had during the year numerous visits from former pupils of the Institution, and many of them expressed in warm terms their gratitude for having been taken from a vicious course of life, and placed under a discipline that has made them worthy members of society.

Our Sabbath-schools have been under the faithful superin-

tendence of William S. Morrison. He and his corps of excellent teachers have zealously endeavored to impress upon the minds of our children the principles of Divine truth. May their efforts be abundantly crowned with success, and hundreds rejoice that the opportunity was afforded them while here of learning of "righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come." To the Ministers of the Gospel and others who have so kindly addressed the children upon the Sabbath, we are under especial obligations.

To the Managers, for their valuable advice and counsel, and to the officers of the Institution, for their efficient and faithful performance of duty, I tender my thanks.

Relying upon the Divine Blessing to accompany all future efforts for the reformation of those placed under our care,

I remain, very respectfully,

JESSE K. McKEEVER,

Superintendent.

January 1, 1866.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE COLORED DEPARTMENT.

To the Managers of the House of Refuge:

The Superintendent of the Colored Department reports that the number admitted and discharged from January 1, 1865, to January 1, 1866, is as follows:

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Committed by Magistrates of Philadelphia county,	51	20	71
Committed by Court of Philadelphia county,	1	—	1
Committed by Court of Bucks county,	1	—	1
Committed by Court of Chester county,	1	—	1
Committed by Court of Dauphin county,	4	—	4
Committed by Court of Franklin county,	2	—	2
Committed by Court of Lancaster county,	1	—	1
Committed by Court of Susquehanna county,	—	1	1
Returned by masters,	6	3	9
Returned, having left their masters,	6	—	6
	<hr/> 73	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 97
<i>Discharged:</i>			
By indenture,	28	14	42
Returned to friends,	22	14	36
Returned to master,	1	—	1
Discharged,	2	3	5
Died,	2	—	2
Sent to City Hospital,	1	—	1
Sent to Almshouse,	1	3	4
Eloped,	1	—	1
	<hr/> 58	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 92
Remaining in this Department Jan. 1, 1866,	103	46	149

56 were committed on complaint and by request of their parents or nearest friends.

Those committed were born as follows: In Philadelphia, 38; other counties of Pennsylvania, 24; New York, 2; New Jersey, 2; Virginia, 6; North Carolina, 3; South Carolina, 3; Georgia, 4; Kentucky, 2; Canada, 1. Remainder not ascertained.

The average age of boys when admitted was $12\frac{1}{3}$ years; girls, $12\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The average number of inmates through the year was 101 boys and 49 girls.

The greatest number at any one time was 107 boys and 56 girls.

WORK DONE BY BOYS.

Amount of labor in the box shop, .	\$1,174 51
Amount of labor in the wire shop, .	1,195 00
Amount of labor in the shoe shop, by shoes supplied both White and Colored Departments,	\$3,860 82
To leather, shoe-findings, and Overseer's wages,	2,881 58
	<hr/>
	979 24
Total,	<hr/>
	\$3,348 75

WORK DONE BY GIRLS.

Striped shirts,	194
Flannel shirts,	148
Jackets,	356
Pants,	200
Suspenders, (pairs)	174
Boys' aprons,	174
Dresses,	136
Flannel skirts,	16
Pillow cases,	9
Bolster cases,	2
Sheets,	39
Desk covers,	12
Window curtains,	19

Stand covers,	24
Girls' aprons,	68
Towels,	52
Bed-ticks,	25
Pocket-handkerchiefs hemmed,	57
Under garments,	24
Skirts,	17
Comfortables repaired,	24
Stockings bound and marked, (pairs)	188
Carpet rags cut and sewed, (lbs.)	23

EXPENDITURES OF COLORED DEPARTMENT FOR 1865.

Salaries and wages,	\$3,363 60
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Provisions:

Beef for officers,	2,673 lbs.	\$411 79
Beef for inmates,	6,859 lbs.	548 76
Suet for inmates,	1,760 lbs.	274 73
Mutton,	1,130 lbs.	113 00
Fish,		72 99
Ham and sausage,		80 33
Wheat flour,	39,206 lbs.	1,992 34
Corn meal,	14,116 lbs.	401 30
Beans and hominy,	4,900 lbs.	218 70
Potatoes,	511 bush.	395 91
Turnips and cabbage,		92 00
Coffee,		77 51
Tea,	79 lbs.	95 80
Sugar,	745 lbs.	147 66
Milk,	2,997 qts.	252 68
Buttermilk,		6 00
Butter,	356 lbs.	210 05
Dried fruit,		37 39
Molasses,	402 galls.	201 82
Lard and salt,		27 35
Vinegar,		16 38
Marketing,		258 96
		<hr/> 5,933 45
Carried forward,		\$9,297 05

Brought forward, \$9,297 05

Clothing.

Satinett,	564 yards.	\$642 69	
Drilling,		275 31	
Cutting garments,		35 40	
Calico, stripes, &c.,	2,418 yards.	883 53	
Muslin,		58 49	
Apron linen,		61 43	
Boys' caps,		105 00	
Boys' shoes,	229 pairs.	524 25	
Girls' shoes,	120 pairs.	258 00	
Repaired shoes,	551 pairs.	357 83	
Stockings,	22 dozen.	105 25	
Trimmings,		164 43	
		<hr/>	3,471 61

Furniture.

Carpeting,		\$77 84	
Hardware,		26 50	
Tinware,		49 49	
Woodenware,		102 70	
Bedding, &c.,		182 88	
Brushes and brooms,		73 96	
Queensware,		27 00	
		<hr/>	540 37

Fuel and light.

Coal,	180 tons.	\$1,086 00	
Gas and candles,		406 18	
		<hr/>	1,492 18

Improvements and Repairs.

New "Harrison steam boiler,"		626 17	
Lumber, fire-bricks, &c.,		292 08	
Brickwork, lime, sand, &c.,		661 49	
Plumbing, steam fittings, &c.,		248 18	
Hardware,		64 36	
Paints, glass, &c.,		78 96	
Locks,		41 30	
Heaters, stoves, &c.,		78 82	
		<hr/>	2,091 36

Carried forward, \$16,892 57

Brought forward,	\$16,892 57
<i>Infirmary.</i>	
Physicians' salary,	\$100 00
Medicines, dentistry, &c.,	56 19
Funeral,	17 00
	<hr/>
	173 19

Miscellaneous Expenses.

Soap and starch, 2,628 lbs.	342 62
Stationery and school books,	159 32
Combs,	19 32
Traveling,	49 31
Bringing inmates,	58 78
Postage and Revenue stamps,	44 54
Gardens, hauling dirt, &c.,	73 28
Spices,	16 13
Sundries,	109 25
Ice,	21 00
Water rent,	70 00
	<hr/>
	963 55
	<hr/>
	\$18,029 31

Of the above amount the sum of \$2,000 was expended in the erection of a boiler-house, the purchase, and putting in complete working order a new "Harrison steam boiler."

General Expenses.

Of the expenses of both White and Colored Departments, for salary of Agent, rent of Managers' room, printing of Annual Report, &c., there is chargeable to Colored Department,	\$910 10
Wages of Engineer, Assistant Engineer, Baker, Carpenter, and Coachman, including board,	832 00
For the use of steam, chargeable with 60 tons of coal,	387 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,129 10

BOYS' SCHOOL.

Number in attendance January 1, 1865,	88
“ admitted during the year,	74
“ discharged during the year,	58
“ now in attendance,	104

The following table shows their attainments when admitted and discharged.

	<i>When admitted.</i>	<i>When discharged.</i>
Could read well,	5	25
“ “ tolerably,	8	18
“ “ monosyllables,	27	9
Knew the alphabet only,	14	3
Knew not the alphabet,	20	3
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 58
Could write a plain hand,	4	28
“ “ legibly,	6	20
“ “ poorly,	25	4
“ “ name only,	12	4
Could not write,	27	2
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 58
Could cipher in fractions,	—	2
“ “ in reduction,	—	3
“ “ through primary rules,	2	14
“ “ in multiplication,	4	26
“ “ in addition and subtraction,	23	10
Knew nothing of arithmetic,	45	3
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 58

GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Number in attendance January 1, 1865,	55
“ admitted during the year,	25
“ discharged during the year,	34
“ now in attendance,	46

The following table shows the comparative attainments of those admitted and discharged:

	<i>When admitted.</i>	<i>When discharged.</i>
Could read well,	1	13
“ “ tolerably,	9	10
“ “ easy lessons,	3	11
Knew alphabet only,	2	0
Did not know alphabet,	10	0
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 34
Could write a letter,	4	23
“ “ legibly,	2	8
“ “ name only,	2	3
Ignorant of writing,	17	0
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 34
Could cipher through primary rules,	0	6
“ “ in multiplication,	2	6
“ “ in addition and subtraction,	4	17
Ignorant of arithmetic,	19	5
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 34

It is a matter of profound gratitude to Him, “without whose notice not a sparrow falls to the ground,” that this department has been favored with such general excellent health throughout the year that has just closed.

It is with thankfulness I am privileged to record the almost total absence of mortality in the department since my last Annual Report. Taking into consideration the circumstances attending the early life and habits of those committed to our care, it would be difficult to find a community, under any circumstances, of equal numbers, where the same immunity from disease and common ailments is enjoyed. This immunity I am disposed to credit to the regular system of labor, study and recreation, operating in conjunction with a plain, wholesome dietary system.

My experience leads me to say, that, in proportion as practical sanitary measures are enforced, with just sufficient manual labor for physical development, and education for mental and moral improvement, interspersed with intervals of recreation obtained in that proportion are health and happiness promoted. Apart from the fact that these are the best auxiliaries to discipline, they are the best helps to health.

The day-schools, under the charge of Messrs. Hendrixson and Hughes, and Miss E. A. Young, are conducted with efficiency, and the children are making good progress in the various branches of study recommended by the School Committee.

The Sunday-schools have had constant and faithful attention from our devoted teachers, whose only reward is the consciousness of having done something for our common Lord and Master.

The Chapel services have been conducted regularly, as in former years. For several years, Messrs. Thomas A. Robinson, M'Gregor J. Mitcheson, Thomas Latimer, Frederick Elliott, and John Douglass, have conducted these services in turn. It is due to these gentlemen to say that they have proved their devotion to the work by their untiring services for so long a time. I think it of the greatest advantage to *our* children to have the same persons, at regular stated intervals, conduct the Chapel services. The preachers learn to adapt both the manner and matter of their discourses to the capacity of their auditors, while the children become familiar with the manner and system of instruction imparted, and thereby derive greater benefit than from the occasional sermons of strangers.

During the past season, a small "Harrison steam boiler" was erected to supply steam for cooking and washing purposes. This is a valuable improvement. Formerly we were supplied from the White Department, but great difficulty was experienced, especially in cold weather, in forcing steam so great a distance. I hope the time is not far distant when the Board will feel warranted in making the expenditure necessary to heat the buildings in this department by the same agent. At

first the outlay would be a considerable item of expense, but in the end it would justify the expense, as it would be a safer, healthier, and more economical mode of heating than at present used.

The officers in general have labored earnestly in performing the duties of their several relations. They merit my warmest thanks. And, to the Board, I offer my acknowledgments for your counsel and co-operation.

Praying the blessing of Heaven on the labors of the past, and the favor of God for the future, this report is

Respectfully submitted,

J. HOOD LAVERTY,
Superintendent.

January 1, 1866.

THE FOLLOWING EXTRACTS OF LETTERS, WRITTEN BY THOSE TO WHOM FORMER INMATES HAVE BEEN INDENTURED, ARE A FEW OF THE MANY FAVORABLE ANSWERS THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

RELATIVE TO BOYS IN THE WHITE DEPARTMENT.

We deem it a pleasure to inform you that we are very well pleased with J. E. so far. He is quite obedient and industrious, and improves in his employment. He is going to school, and, I think, will endeavor to improve his time. We are very well satisfied with him, and he appears to like his home. Admitted January 12, 1864. Indentured March 6, 1865.

I have had some trouble with W. H., to get him reconciled to his home. He wanted to go back to you before I got him out of the city, but he is satisfied at present, and improves. He is very healthy and fleshy. Admitted February 9, 1863. Indentured March 23, 1865.

J. R. H. is a good kind of a boy, and attentive to his work, but is rather slow. He is going to school this winter; is very attentive to his studies, and learns very fast. He likes his place, and appears to be contented. Admitted June 8, 1863. Indentured November 12, 1864.

T. and J. H. are very good boys. The family are attached to them, and they seem to be entirely satisfied. Admitted September 23, 1864. Indentured October 12, 1865.

I feel very grateful to thee for sending me so good a boy as W. L. I am much pleased with him. He has grown very rapidly, and thee would hardly know him. Admitted August 14, 1863. Indentured September 23, 1864.

B. D. is the best boy that I ever had anything to do with. He is very willing to work, and tries to learn. He never uses bad language; goes about his work singing, and when night

comes remains in the house. He is one boy out of a hundred. Admitted March 17, 1864. Indentured March 25, 1865.

J. M. is a pretty good boy, but like the most of boys, he sometimes needs correcting. I like him very well, and he appears to think a great deal of me and my family. My children are attached to him. He likes the country better than the city, and is a stout, hearty boy. Admitted May 13, 1863. Indentured March 23, 1865.

J. H. has come fully up to my expectations of him. He appears desirous to become a farmer, and has made satisfactory progress. He has been, and is now attending school, but does not take that interest in his studies as would be desirable. I hope, with the proper incentives, he will improve. His health has been good. Admitted September 23, 1859. Indentured July 17, 1864.

In regard to J. W., I feel glad to be able to state that he is a very energetic and reliable boy. I find him very valuable amongst the stock, in which he seems to take pride and interest. He has quite a little store of money of his own in my hands, from gifts and sale of stock. I have given him to keep up his interest in his business, every season, a lamb, pig, sheep, &c. Should he continue as he is, he will find in me a friend that will do well by him. Admitted April 19, 1862. Indentured April 25, 1863.

When I took H. C. out of the Institution, I sent him to school for six months, during which time he made rapid progress in his studies. I then took him with me on board of my steamer on the Potomac River, and placed him under the charge of the pilot. We are still in the Government service, and I am pleased to say, that H. has become quite a pilot. Although a boy, I can trust him in charge of the steamer, so far as piloting is concerned, to run from Washington City to Baltimore, or Fortress Monroe, or in fact to any point on the Chesapeake

Bay or its tributaries. Admitted March 25, 1862. Indentured January 9, 1863.

RELATIVE TO WHITE GIRLS.

B. S., whom you placed under my care two years ago, has improved in every particular mentioned in your interrogatories. She is a right good cook and baker, washer and ironer; goes steadily to school, and has advanced rapidly in her studies. She strives to be obedient and kind, but has a hard disposition to contend against. She is aware of it, and I trust that by mild and gentle treatment, she will become amiable. Admitted June 19, 1863. Indentured January 26, 1864.

J. McC. is still with us, and is very well. Has not had a day's sickness since we have had her. She is becoming quite useful. I think she will make a steady, industrious girl, although we have to be more strict with her than the boy L. Admitted March 7, 1864. Indentured April 25, 1865.

I have given C. D. more schooling than the indenture requires. For several years after I got her she was very delicate, but now she promises to be robust and healthy in the future. Admitted December 20, 1858. Indentured December 28, 1859.

I am happy to say M. G.'s temper and disposition are improving. We treat her with kindness and forbearance, which is the best way to govern her. Admitted February 21, 1863. Indentured March 25, 1864.

I would consider the answers I have already given to the questions of your circular sufficient in any ordinary case, but our girl, H. S., deserves something more in the way of commendation, as a cheerful, happy, docile, playful and obedient child, fond of her books, and attentive to her studies. She has elicited an unusual degree of our interest. Admitted July 29, 1864. Indentured August 20, 1865.

RELATIVE TO COLORED BOYS.

H. T. is obedient, honest and truthful, and has improved very much in his employment. He attends Sabbath-school every Sabbath. He says he is well satisfied, and has no desire to return to the city.

Dear Sir:—I have answered your various questions in reference to H. W. as nearly as possible. He is getting along finely. He associates only with the best boys, and is much respected in the neighborhood.

In regard to R. J., I take pleasure in stating that he is an excellent boy. When he first came to me I thought he lacked energy, but as he gradually became familiar with the business he became industrious, and is now equal to the performance of a man's work. He is very fond of going to church, and drives the carriage for me there nearly every Sunday. He is always in good humor. I never saw him angry, nor ever heard him utter a bad word.

W. R. remained with me twelve years, during which time he served me as well and as faithfully as ever boy served a master. When he became of age, I gave him more than was provided for in the indenture, and he carried with him my best wishes for his prosperity.

G. C. is a good-natured, industrious, and trustworthy boy. He received a very handsome Bible from the Sunday-school Superintendent, as a reward for well-learned lessons.

W. H. S. is an honest, truthful, and industrious little fellow. He has attended school, but is diligent in the use of his slate and books at home. I am endeavoring to bring him up to be an honest and good man, and the prospect of success is certainly very flattering.

O. J. continues to be the same good-natured and reliable boy of former years. You will remember that I wrote you last spring, that, in a few days he would be free. O. was advised of the same thing for some time; but a careful examination of the indenture showed me that I had made a mistake, and that he would not be free yet for several months. When I informed him of how the matter stood, his remark was, "I want to do what is right," and resumed his place as an apprentice again.

A. B. is obedient, and as trustworthy as most boys of his age. He is by no means a dull boy, but contrives at proper times to make amusement for himself and all who may be near. The troubles of life sit lightly on him. His health is excellent; he has grown a large, strong boy.

W. L. approaches very nearly the standard of an excellent boy. I do not consider it just to regard every frivolity of youth as a penal offence. There would be fewer complaints, if masters would remember that a boy is not a man, and that old heads do not fit on young shoulders.

RELATIVE TO COLORED GIRLS.

E. J. remained with me until her term of apprenticeship had expired. We gave her all the indenture called for, and took her to her father, near your city. She remained there about two months, and returned to our neighborhood, and hired with a farmer. Since then she has married, and is living a few miles away, and is doing well.

M. T. is obedient, honest, and truthful. She is industrious, and has improved in her employment. She is a teacher in a colored Sunday-school, which she attends each Sunday.

I am glad to receive your circular, for it is pleasant to write you good news of S. K. She is willing, and does her best in

performing her duties. She is obedient, and reliable in every respect, and if she continues in her present course, I shall do well by her. She goes to school, but does not seem to possess the gift of memory to retain her studies. She desires to be remembered to all the officers of the Institution.

R. J. is an excellent girl; she is neat and tidy in the discharge of her work, and will, no doubt, make an excellent housekeeper.

In reference to A. B., we have nothing to complain of, and much in her to commend. Her disposition is very pleasant, and she performs her work well.

FORM OF A LEGACY OR DEVISE.

I do give, devise and bequeath to the HOUSE OF REFUGE,
their successors and assigns

Fifty dollars a Life Subscription.

Two dollars an Annual Subscription.

Subscriptions and Donations will be received by any of the Managers, or by either of the Superintendents.